



Minnesota Department of Transportation

District 8 - Willmar/Marshall/Hutchinson
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Willmar, MN 56201

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April 28, 2009

Mr. Bob Dols
TH 23 Corridor Coalition
600 Industrial Drive SW
Willmar, MN 56201

Dear Mr. Dols:

This letter will serve as the Minnesota Department of Transportation's concurrence that construction of a TH 23 4-lane expansion project from New London to the Paynesville Bypass (The existing 2-lane gap) is a good transportation project for Southwest Minnesota and that Mn/DOT will provide the local match for any federal funding your coalition is successful at securing for the project. Please be advised that Mn/DOT will not provide any additional resources for this project above and beyond what is necessary to provide the local match for the project, because of limited availability of other funding. Mn/DOT believes construction of this project can be delivered no earlier than FY 2013.

If you have any questions or concerns about our support for the project, please contact Patrick Weidemann in our office. Patrick can be reached at (320) 214-6365.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David G. Trooien".

David G. Trooien.
Transportation District Engineer

cc: Patrick Weidemann

May 5, 2009

The Honorable Collin Peterson
2211 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

I am writing to seek your support for the inclusion of \$500,000 for a Trunk Highway (TH) 23 Corridor Study in the next Surface Transportation Authorization Bill. This High Priority Project request would assist the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) in studying the corridor needs and determining a preferred solution on TH 23, from I-90 to Willmar, while gaining public input and support along this vital transportation corridor. The corridor study process will provide opportunity for public comment on this project. In addition, the Marshall Transportation Committee has aggressively sought public input relating to projects on this corridor.

If funded, this High Priority Project will study the safety, mobility, economic development opportunity, and the movement of goods and people needs along the corridor. Funding would be used to research these identified transportation needs and analyze alternative solutions along TH 23 from I-90 to Willmar and compile this information in a TH 23 Corridor Study document. The document will be used for determining future construction projects on TH 23 and will assist MnDOT in planning efforts for this corridor.

Willmar, along with its TH23 corridor partners, is seeking your support for the provision of Federal funding to complete 80 percent of the completion of the Study.

As government officials, we support this project and ask for you strong support for this vital transportation corridor.

Sincerely,

Dennis Peterson, Chairman
Kandiyohi County Commissioner